

Southwester

A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of the Southwest Community Council, Inc.

FREE

SERVING SOUTHWEST

FEBRUARY 1996

SWNA group studies proposals for the site

Habitat for Humanity proposes to build homes on the Syphax School site...

by Marc Weiss & Judy Neiman

For the past six months, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly has been discussing a suitable use for the site of the abandoned Syphax School. The large site between N and O Streets, Half Street and South Capitol, has been standing vacant for several years and is a community eyesore. When the D.C. Board of Education closed Syphax School, it turned over the ownership of the school buildings and grounds to the DC government. The buildings have badly deteriorated to the point that it would cost millions of dollars to repair the damaged heating, lighting, plumbing, and other systems, and to replace the vandalized walls, floors, furniture, and fixtures.

Though the buildings are officially closed, there are many open doors and windows that have allowed the former school to become a contemporary home for drug dealing and prostitution, and a very unsafe "haven" for homeless people. Illegal activity is commonplace at night both inside the school buildings and outside on the grounds.

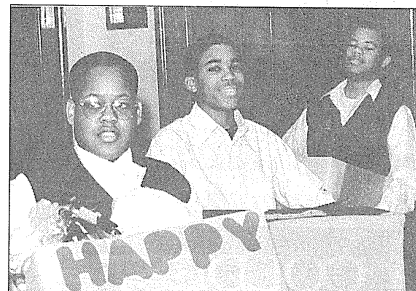
The Syphax School still is not even listed as "surplus property," the first minimum step required for the site to be sold or donated to any private, public, or non-profit organiza-

tions other than the financially-strapped D.C. government itself.

The D.C. Office of Historic Preservation cannot even do an evaluation of Syphax School's potential value as an historic landmark until the school site gets listed as "surplus property," something the Department of Administrative Services and the Department of Housing and Community Development must do, but have not yet done.

The SWNA held a story continued on page 3

Jeff Students delivering Thanksgiving food baskets...



Jeff students collected and donated 30 Thanksgiving food baskets...

Students at Jefferson Jr. High donated food at Thanksgiving time and brought 30 baskets full to the Southwest Community House, on Q St. SW, for distribution to needy families.

Some of our regulars missed deadline due to the blizzard...

Due to the Blizzard of '96, you will notice that many of our "regulars" are not in this issue — Jack Evans, the schools, the library, and others.

We want to thank everyone who did get articles into the paper and just remember, "neither rain nor sleet nor blizzard" will stop the Southwester from being distributed. Editor.

SWNA and Carrollburg Friends visit Anacostia Habitat for Humanity dedication



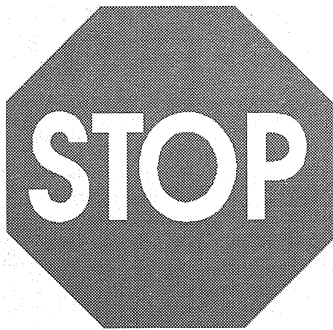
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SWNA:

There will be no January SWNA meeting. The next meeting will be February 20, 7PM, at the Anthony Bowen School, 3rd and M Streets. Housing will be on the agenda, and David Gilmore, head of D.C. Housing Authority will be present.





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SW Community Calendar January — February 1996

- Feb 5 Monday** - SWNA Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Southeastern University
- Feb 6 Tuesday** - 1st District Citizen Advisory Council, 7:30 pm, 1D HQ, 415 4th St.
- Feb 12 Monday** - ANC-2D, 7:30 pm, Westminster Church, 400 I St.
- Feb 20 Tuesday** - SWNA Safety/Housing Meeting, Anthony Bowen School, 7PM
- Feb 21 Wednesday** - AARP-4751, noon, St. Matthew's, 3rd & M
- Feb 26 Monday** - Wiley Branton CDC - Annual Meeting, 7:00 pm, St. Matthew's, 3rd & M
- Feb 27 Tuesday** - Youth Activities Task Force
- Feb 29 Thursday** - NARFE, 1:30 pm, SW Branch Library, 3rd & Wesley Pl.
- Mar 7 Thursday** - Zoning Commission on SWURP, 7:00 pm, 1 Judiciary Sq., NW
- Please submit calendar items to C.W. Hargrave, 554-8284, before the first of each month.

**At this time,
let us
reflect on
the legacy of
Martin Luther King Jr.,
and think ahead to
Black History
Month.**

- Editor

The Southwester

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488-3355

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**Drop off your stories by
March 6, 1996**, in the box behind
the counter at the SW Library, 3rd & I
SW, or mail to : The Southwester, P.O.
70131, Washington, D.C. 20024

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Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation:

1. ANNUAL MEETING. The Annual Meeting will be held at 7:00 P.M. Monday, February 26, 1996 at St. Matthews Church, 222 M Street, S.W.

2. PROPOSED BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS. The Board of Directors proposed the following changes in the by-laws to be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

(1) Strike "Neighborhood Planning Council #17 (Adults)" from the list of organizations that appoint members of the Board of Directors (Article IV, Section B (4). This change is proposed since NPC #17 no longer exists. Add "Arthur Capper Community Health Center."

(2) Insert the word "sitting" in the definition of a Board quorum (Article IV, Section N) so that it reads: A quorum for Board meetings shall be a majority of the sitting Directors." This change is intended to clarify vacancies which should not be counted in determining a quorum.

(4) CALL FOR NOMINATIONS. Any member wishing to run for the Board of Directors, or wishing to nominate someone else, should contact Walter Brooks, Nominations Committee, 554-4528.

(5) FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Yvonne Price, Coordinator, 554-9235.

Statement of Fact

by Margaret H. Oliver

I am proud to be an American
- a female American
- a Black female American
There is nothing or no one prouder than me

I survived the first bondage
- the terror of slavery
- the uncertainty of freedom
There is nothing or no one more durable than me

I cared for all peoples of this land
- through infancy
- through young adulthood
- through old age
There is nothing or no one more caring than me

I have held on to my self esteem
- when my beauty was discounted
- my contributions stolen
- my feelings ignored
There is nothing or no one stronger than me

I have retained my ability to love
- my own race of people
- all the other races of the world
- most of all, my ever loving God
No one is, has ever been, or ever will be more
loving than me.

Habitat for Humanity story continued from page 1...

community meeting at the Southwest Branch Library on October 24 to discuss the future of the Syphax School site. The purpose of the meeting was to get ideas from neighborhood residents, businesses, and organizations as to what should be done to clean up the site, make it safe, and improve it in a way that benefits the entire community.

Many people spoke at the meeting, including residents of Greenleaf Gardens and James Creek, two nearby public housing developments, residents of Carrollburg Place who live very close to the school site, the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (2-D), and representatives from the Mayor's office, Councilman Evans' office, the Department of Administrative Services, the School Board, and the Amidon School PTA.

SWNA also invited representatives of the D.C. Habitat for Humanity to speak at the meeting, including Marilyn Johnson, a secretary at the U.S. Department of Labor who is the new Habitat homeowner of the house at 1400 First Street S.W.

According to Carol Casperson, Habitat's executive director, D.C. Habitat for Humanity would like to build affordable townhomes on the Syphax School site.

The SWNA Board of Directors was impressed with the proposal put forth by D.C. Habitat, and recommended in November "that the Syphax School site be redeveloped for affordable homeownership, preferably by Habitat for Humanity." Many people believe that building affordable homes at Syphax will reduce crime and make the neighborhood more attractive and safe. Habitat has a formula that enables working people with very modest incomes to own a home.

Some of the residents from

Carrollburg Place expressed concern about the current crime and other threatening behavior on the Syphax site, and others responded that putting a large number of new homes and new homeowners there is a good way to stabilize the area, as has happened in other place like the church-based Nehemiah homes in New York, Washington, Baltimore, and elsewhere.

Other people at the SWNA meeting, including Greenleaf Gardens resident leader Bobbi McMahon, stated that they would like to see the oldest of the three Syphax School building preserved as a community center for arts and recreation activities.

The representatives from D.C. Habitat made clear that they would abide by the community's wishes, including working with the neighborhood to find the funds to restore and preserve the original school building, especially if it is found to be historic due to the role of the Syphax family as early leaders of Washington's African-American community.

There is already a large plot of vacant land -- formerly the Syphax School playground and parking lot -- that can be rebuilt with brand new townhomes without demolishing the existing school buildings. Some neighborhood residents, such as ANC Commissioner Toni Cassidy, want to see the buildings demolished immediately by the District government, largely for safety reasons.

The Habitat homeownership

plan is flexible and does not require demolition in order to proceed.

Ward 2 School Board member Ann Wilcox publicly supports the Habitat idea for the Syphax site, and both Mayor Barry and Councilman Evans have expressed interest in the Habitat proposal.

What is most needed is community consensus for strong action behind a workable plan.

The SWNA and the Carrollburg Friends, led by Emma Ward, jointly conducted a study tour of D.C. Habitat's handiwork, and attended the dedication of four single-family houses recently completed in Anacostia. Everyone who attended the dedication was moved by the pride of the new homeowner families, and impressed by the quality of the homes. SWNA and Carrollburg Friends plan to make another, more extensive tour in the next few months.

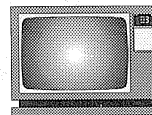
At the direction of SWNA's President, Dr. Beryl Rice, the SWNA has formed a working group of community residents to continue discussing and taking action to redevelop Syphax School. We will continue to report in *The Southwester* regarding these activities. If you are interested in getting involved, going on a tour, making your voice heard, lending a hand, please call Marc Weiss at 554-7440.



Entertainment was provided by "East of the River" Steel Band at the Anacostia Habitat dedication.

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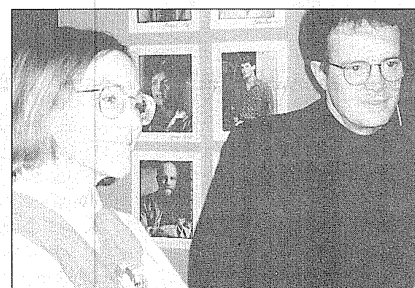
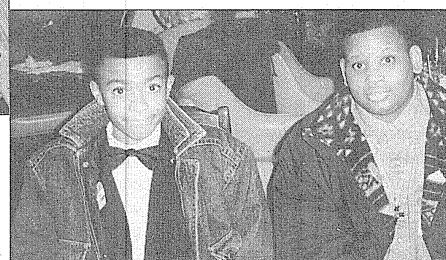
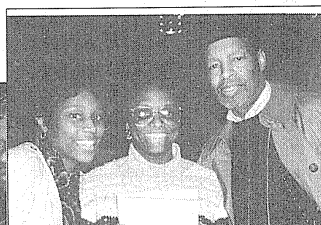
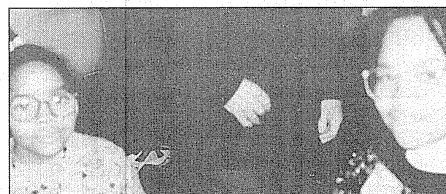
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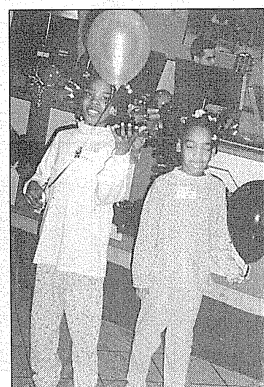
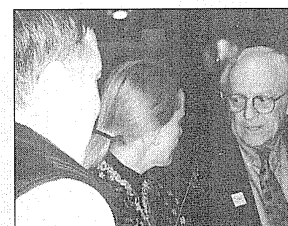
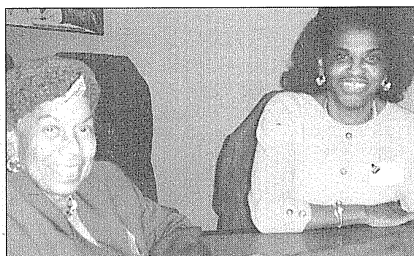
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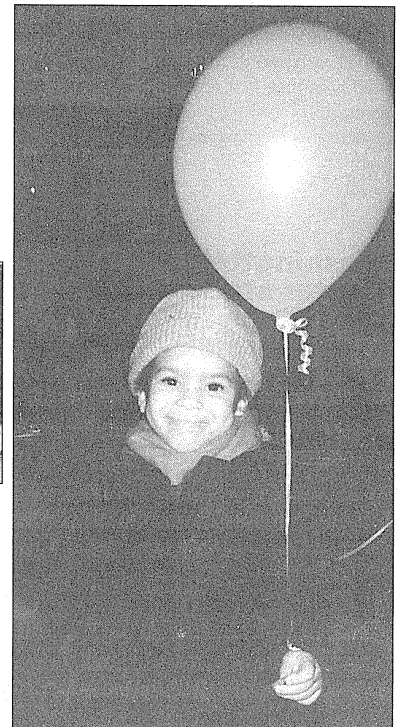
The **SWNA** Holiday Party





Thanks...

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, SWNA, would like to thank Jenny's Restaurant for making their restaurant available for our Holiday Party on December 12th. Jenny's has always been more than generous to the community ever since they came to SW. This was no exception. Not only did Jenny's provide space, they - along with Capt. Sunny White of Capt. White's Seafood, Pizza Hut, Creole Orleans and the Odyssey supplied the party with great food which was representative of their establishments. Many thanks to them and thanks to everyone who came out and brought gifts for the needy.



A project of United Unique Black Women Greenleaf Housing cleanup day was a big success...

by Zelda Adams

On November 18, 1995, United Unique Black Women, UUBW, went to do some work in a part of Greenleaf Housing. Most of the day was spent gutting out, sorting, and disposing of unwanted trash, glass, mattresses and other items.

This was UUBW's first effort to bring the families, friends and the community together. UUBW was inspired by the Million Man March. The organization is based on getting our black males involved in their communities.

UUBW was not the only organization on the scene. Brothers are Strong (see other article on page 7) was there, as well as, David An-

thony of the Department of Public Works. He went above and beyond his daily duties (and this was during the first furlough) to provided us with the necessary equipment for cleaning and filling pot holes, as well as general help during the cleanup.

Shelia Smith, a resident of the Greenleaf Housing, was a great help in inspiring other residents to come out and lend a helping hand. Mr. and Mrs. Wright provided us with electricity for our equipment, and their backyard for food and beverages for our cleaning crew. UUBW's involvement has bought several changes to this area. Pot holes were filled, dead trees were re-

moved, residents' yards were cleared of excess debris, walkways were made visible and these were just a few of the changes.

Although we feel our cleanup was a success, there are several issues that need to be addressed concerning the upkeep of the neighborhood. Such things such as replacing light bulbs and putting covers over street lamps in parking lots, keeping vacant houses boarded up, removing of bulk trash on a regular basis need to be on-going. Also, with the participation of more residents, we can make the community a safer and cleaner environment to live in.

UUBW organization will be doing other activities in the future. Please call (703) 769-3350 for more information.

Dollars for Scholars at SWCH

The Southwest Community House has begun a "Dollars for Scholars" program to reward student achievement. 110 Southwest students received cash awards for good grades on their first report cards.

Students received \$5 for each "A" and \$3 for each "B"

earned in a major academic subject (math, English, science, etc.). Also, perfect attendance earned \$5. There was a limit of \$25 awarded. All students, grades 3 through 12, living in Southwest were eligible.

The program is a means of congratulating good students and emphasizing that - "Good

grades Make Good Cents!"

The Board hopes to continue the program if funding available for future grading periods. Those interested in supporting this effort may send contributions to the Southwest Community House, 156 Q St. SW, Wash., DC (488-7210).

Washington Center students take steps to improve their security...

by Erik Ottengren

The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars has many students and staff housed at the Capitol Park Apartments & Suites at 800-4th Street, SW.

After several students were mugged (in separate incidents), a group of interns contacted the Capitol, First District-DC, and the Park Police, Waterside Mall Administration and security,

Metro, and the Mayor's offices. Their work resulted in a meeting, which served as a catalyst for the above organizations to share information and to better serve the community.

The interns continue to clean up the area, report missing lights, and have had an extra guard placed on the north side of the mall. (The National Park Service has trimmed trees and will increase lighting on the north side of Waterside Mall.) Interns are meeting the challenge of city-living and are making many positive changes. The '96 interns are arriving this month. Hopefully they will carry-on this security effort.

Farewell party for Carolyn McCormick...

After many changes in the date, a farewell party for the former SW Branch Librarian, Carolyn McCormick was held on December 1, 1995. It was a seated dinner at Ribsters. People who knew Carolyn as a colleague, those who knew her as a community leader, her personal friends as well as her church friends paid for the dinner and a chance to bid farewell and good luck to their pal. There were good natured roasts and stories about Carolyn McCormick. Here is a poem which was written and read at the dinner.

Ode To Carolyn

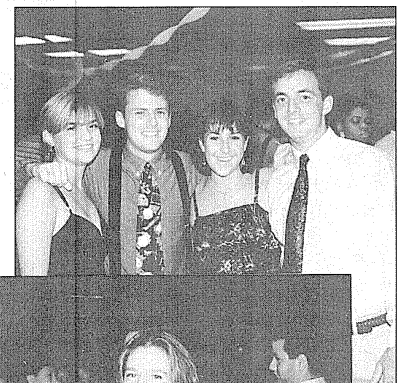
by Barbara Murray

She blew in from the motor city
and took southwest quite by storm
She blew in from the motor city,
and captured us with a smile o-so-warm

The "book house" was her power base
from whence her energy fired with grace
She prodded youth to gain some knowledge
read some books, have some fun, and go to college

The library became our community center
where she welcomed all to come and enter
Various hues of young and old
All love Carolyn with the heart of gold

She flew into the Capitol City
and helped us all in each endeavor
She flew into the Capitol City
and left her mark on use.....forever.



Washington Center
intern party on the
Potomac Spirit...



After the March... a new spark

by Amerah Henrene Shabazz

Before the One Million Man March, Amerah Shabazz who is a member at the Riverside Church, spoke at Sunday services about her feelings concerning the March. She shared her feelings about the message vs. the messenger.

She wrote a story for the paper about her feelings on that day. Here is an excerpt. "On Monday morning, I decided I was going to walk to work by way of the Smithsonian Mall. I dressed in my African attire, donned my cap and set out for work. I walked because I wanted to witness first-hand this great event. What I saw and felt was overwhelming. Thousands and thousands of Black men, some with their young sons, a few with their wives/significant others or women friends. You could almost reach out and touch the 'mood'. I walked with pride. Brothers and sisters acknowledged me with respect as I walked the length of the Mall.

Oh, what a great and won-

derful day! I arrived at my place of employment to be greeted by two female coworkers. To show their support, they dressed in their African attire and made a conscious decision not to spend any money - they brought their lunch from home. I walked into their 'space' and extended the greeting of peace, As-Salaam-Alaikum. They returned the greetings with, Wa-Laikum-Salaam. We each embraced.

When I told them I had walked to work by way of the Mall they asked how it was. My response: 'I walked through that crowd of beautiful Black men (and women) to feel their energy and leave my spirit. I achieved both.'

After getting plenty of feedback from my family and friends, whose son or husband or significant other, etc. at-

tended the March I still hold that, for many who attended and/or supported the March, the message could and was separated from the messenger. Husbands, sons, etc., went back to their communities and began mobilizing. They committed to organizing to address the core issues in our community. They are committed to forming a group of men (and women) in the different communities who would be willing to go into the schools, churches and homes. The goal is to work towards hope and healing.

I still hold on to my personal belief: That the One Million Man March was bigger than the messenger; and that God uses whomever He pleases to bring a message to His people. There *was* "balm" in that march that will heal the "sin sick souls."

The March... Shared Ideas

Many people have communicated stories which were inspired by the Million Man March. I would like to share some of these articles with you. *Editor*

The birth of an organization

The Million Man March was a great inspiration for myself as a young black male living in our society today. When I left the march, I had one special goal. I wanted to form an organization that would help our brothers come together and give back to our communities and black-owned businesses. I went and talked with twenty of our certified and licensed black businesses. The response from local businesses was very positive. They were more than eager to become a part of this great idea. I started enrolling members and before long, *Brothers Are Strong* had more than 200 members. The organization offers a lot to our

people as a whole while providing discounts for members that obtain ID cards which are honored at the local black owned businesses.

Our first venture into the area of community-out-reach was to lend a hand to the United Unique Black Women with their K Street, SW cleanup, which turned out to be very successful.

We did some "maintenance landscaping." Bushes which had grown high were cut back. This increased the safety factor for people walking down the street. With the permission of those who live in the houses there, we cleaned the trash from their yards.

A few weeks later, many of the brothers donated a few dollars and with the help of radio personality Konan from 93 KYS provided 40 families with turkeys.

For Christmas each brother drew a name from our gift box and presented a gift to a senior citizen (from the Capitol Hill Nursing Home).

As founder and president of the organization, I plan to unite all of my people together as one, so we can prosper economically as well as socially.

Noram Adams, President
(301) 474-3126

Reflections on a day in October

by Phillip R. Oliver

It's funny how even into the New Year of 1996, the Million Man March still resounds with many of us. Now that we've all had a chance to grapple with the issue of the size of the crowd, to ponder the rambling and arcane message of the keynote speaker, to chide and deride those who were called and chose not to come, and to compile a scrapbook of photographs and articles, just in case history develops amnesia after a few years, what's left?


What's left after we've read the pleas of sons of their fathers to come home, after we've seen the leadership summit at Howard University, heard the reports of increased memberships in grass-roots organizations across the county, ordered still another T-shirt from a Midwest vendor, and suffered the charge that the Million Man March was actually a demonstration of black bourgeoisie? What now?

For the writer, it's more of a feeling than anything else. A feeling of having gone somewhere. Of having gone to a very special and ephemeral place. A place where that suppressed corner of your mind came into full play, and you could kick it...around for a minute. A place where the person standing beside you, was the measure of the person standing inside of you. A place that you can't always get to from here.

Of course not one person can define what the Million Man March was. All one can do is to try to share and understand another's experience. It's probably safe to say that the march meant something different to each participant there—but that would be too easy.

For certainly there was a common thread of decency and hope that wound its way through the crowd. And certainly, now the country is better off for it.

Million Man March



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The Merchant's Corner

Jenny's new menu items...

The menu at Jenny's has changed and *The Southwester* would like everyone to know of the changes. "Crispy chicken in orange sauce; shrimp sauted in spicy garlic sauce, "Sizzling Platters" (seven of them).

Over a dozen delicious new additions to the eat-in menu at the popular Jenny's Chinese Restaurant in Waterside Mall are sure to please regular diners and new customers as well.

Flavor has always been a main attraction at Jenny's - coupled with the high fiber, high protein content of the healthy Chinese diet.

Six new items appear on the "Jenny's Recommendation" page of the menu. Four have been added to the Fried Rice menu, and a new listing of seven "Sizzling Platters" has been added.

Also... don't forget the Safeway & Giant Tape Program. SWNA has a box at the branch library (Delaware & Wesley Place) for you to drop off your grocery tapes. However, there are only two tapes in the box. With the spring coming, we hope everyone will start bringing their tapes into the library and that soon the box (which is on the circulation desk) will be overflowing. SWNA will see to it that our local schools are the recipients of your generosity.

Jenny's Chinese Restaurant

New...
sizzling platters

Vegetables sizzling platter \$8.95
 Hunan bean curd sizzling platter \$8.95
 Chicken sizzling platter \$9.95
 Shrimp sizzling platter \$12.95
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 Combination sizzling platter \$12.95
 Seafood sizzling platter \$12.95

Jenny's Restaurant

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Theater Review

Worth Waiting For

Lisa Loomer

by Wallace Babington

You have never been in a waiting room like the one at the Kreeger that serves as the focal point for Arena's current production, "The Waiting Room."

Three women from three different countries and centuries are waiting to see the doctor about their various ailments: a Chinese woman whose bound feet are causing a loss of toes; a Victorian doctor's wife who is painfully rearranging her entire body with a constricting corset; and a modern young woman whose augmented breasts are nourishing a fatal cancerous tumor.

The conversations among these three and the dramatization of their life experiences make up an evening of farce, tragedy and medicine show.

Almost no subject is left untouched. The play begins as though it will be seen as an extensive feminist tract on the way men view women's bodies, health and problems. But it quickly moves from that point to include as targets almost every issue concerned with the current status of women.

The political aspect of cancer prevention and treatment, especially as it pertains to breast cancer, serves as the core issue that leads to consideration of other topics that touch the lives of modern women: the politics and profit of medicine; orthodox and innovative, non-traditional medicine; social and cultural mores that determine the roles of women in society; and just plain information about issues that have shaped the lives of women through the centuries (foot-binding, waist restriction, breast enhancement).

This all sounds academic and polemic; however, the playwright, Lisa Loomer, has woven these issues through a series of vignettes into a totality that is farcical and hilarious - but then suddenly becomes tragic, shocking and startling. And she succeeds at every level in developing a play that is both informative and entertaining.

The cast is uniformly distinguished. Regular Arena players such as Pamela Nyberg, David Marks and Henry Strozier are joined by newcomers who portray dozens of characters that make this tragic-farce come alive. Especially noteworthy is Leah Maddie in multiple roles that become scene stealers through sheer talent and creativity on her part; her accents alone are a source of wonder.

The Waiting Room by Lisa Loomer is playing at Arena Stage in the Kreeger Theater through Jan. 28.

In March, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly will hold elections of officers for the next year

We want interested people to run for several offices. Candidates are needed for President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer. In addition, there are three task forces: the Scholarship Committee, the Youth Activities Force and "The Southwester".

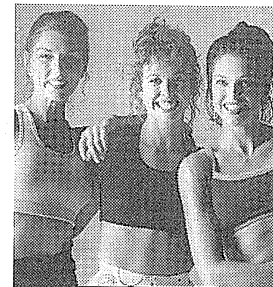
Look in the calendar to see when these task forces are meeting and come out to see if you might like to become involved. The Scholarship Committee will reconvene later in January. Call Barbara Murray at 488-8257 for more info. Dale MacIver is chair of the YATF. Call him at 488-7622. "The Southwester" is ongoing & if journalism or advertising interests you, please call Carole Early at 488-3355.

Often people feel that because they are too busy with work; they can't find the time to be an officer of the Assembly. The present officers are involved with demanding careers. I would like to share these with you.

Our president is involved with coordinating a social work program at Howard, SWNA's vp is an Assistant at HUD, the secretary is a minister, the treasurer is a construction developer, another is at the Agriculture Department and is also an emergency room worker, another is the Consumer Liaison at PEPCO, one is a member of FEMA, and our task forces chairs are headed by a Public Health Educator, a librarian at Southeastern University and a retired government worker.

So, come out to the next SWNA Meeting. The topics of the meeting will be Public Housing and Safety. It should be an informative meeting.

If you would like to nominate people for the offices of the SWNA, write their name and place it in the Southwester box behind the circulation desk in the library, 3rd & Wesley Place. Elections will be held at the Monday, March 25th meeting



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We so often take the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, SWNA, for granted...

That is why it is so important to revisit the objectives of SWNA, written 30 years ago.

- "The objectives of the Assembly shall be:
- to improve the quality of life for all residents of the Southwest;
 - to open to every Southwest resident the wide cultural horizon of modern urban living;
 - to help create rich and equal social, educational, and economic opportunities for every boy and girl of the Southwest;
 - to assist in providing the opportunity for gainful employment for every adult resident;
 - to promote development of the aesthetic potential of the Southwest.

These objectives shall be pursued without regard to the social, economic and racial barriers that have divided cities in the past.

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interactive tools and
resources for a
better quality
of life

I've assembled a sampling of additions to the InterNet to give you the idea of what is possible to find as you journey in cyberspace. Most were found at a site called **The NCSA What's New Page**, (<http://www.ncsa.uiuc.edu/SDG/Software/Mosaic/Docs/whats-new.html>) a joint production of NCSA, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, and GNN, the Global Network Navigator. At the site, they list hundreds of new InterNet addresses from around the world and just about on any subject imaginable. My choices for this column are meant to represent variations of presentations and do not reflect endorsement by me nor this publication.

Each listing begins with the **title (bold)** as listed on the InterNet, followed by a short statement on what you'll find there and ends with the **InterNet address (http://_____)** where you can locate the information. As you explore the 'net, you'll discover that it's really an encyclopedia in electronic form. You'll find that almost any subject can be researched there.

As we journey along, together, you'll recognize that my agenda is to influence the creation of community-based communications systems based on resources and tools found on the InterNet.....**Peace**,

^^^

MyVillage On-Line; Ark Multimedia Publishing, Hampton, VA, US; An on-line magazine for families, with articles and stories addressing the needs of the body, mind, and soul of the family.
<http://www.myvillage.com>

^^^

the peace page; Elsa Joy Bailey, Concord, CA, US; A garden of spiritual insights, dedicated to those interested in personal and spiritual growth.
<http://members.aol.com/elsajoy/>

^^^

BOBC (Black on Black Communications); Electronic newsletter that publishes "the news you can use." Timely, concise news briefs on topics of interest to African Americans: the arts, entertainment, politics, technology, business, sports, education. For a free trial subscription, send email message to **BOBC NEWS@aol.com** with **SUBSCRIBE** as the Subject.

^^^

MELANET; African American cybermall and Black Business Directory
<http://www.melanet.com/melanet/>

^^^

1996 Exotic Plant and Garden Seed Catalog; Southern Business Express, Gautier, MS, US; A collection of rare, unusual, and exotic seeds from around the world.
<http://www.datasync.com/sbe>

^^^

AFRICAN TECHNOLOGY FORUM

Non-profit business at MIT that serves as a publishing and consulting link among African scientists, engineers, businesspeople, and policy makers, and their counterparts from around the world. The Forum has readers in 85 countries and have done business in or with many of those markets.

<http://web.mit.edu/AfricanTech/www/>

^^^

American Academy of Pediatrics: Maryland Chapter; Baltimore, MD, US; A regional chapter of the national organization composed of 50,000 pediatricians, dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults.

<http://www.med.jhu.edu/mdaap/>

^^^

Bed & Breakfast Inns ONLINE; Innkeeper Services, Madison, TN, US; Descriptions and color pictures of bed and breakfasts and country inns throughout the U.S.

<http://www.bbonline.com/~bbonline>

^^^

InterNet Creative Services; KDM Advertising, London, England; Specializes in copywriting and design services for advertising, direct marketing, and Web pages.

<http://www.demon.co.uk/kdm/kdm2.html>

^^^

Dave's Guide to Buying a Home Computer; Dave Krauss, East Lansing, MI, US; A common sense guide to buying a home computer.

<http://www.css.msu.edu/pc-guide.html>

^^^

Fossil Vertebrates at the Burke Museum; Vertebrate Paleontology and geologic age.

<http://weber.u.washington.edu/~vert/BurkeVertPage.html>

^^^

The Herald Newspaper; Dan Gendron, St. Johns, AZ, US; Stop by the world's only open forum, religious dialog newspaper.

<http://www2.csn.net/~jgordow/herald1.html>

^^^

InterCamp; Ideal Computer Strategies, Washington, DC, US; A powerful interactive summer camp information resource, featuring a database of over 2,000 camps, plus chat rooms, bulletin boards, and articles by camp directors.

<http://www.InterCamp.com>

nsagi's list is a project of CA-FAM III, Inc., a not-for-profit professional corporation focusing on applied communications technologies.

Obituary:**Celestine Annette Caraway**

We would like to bid farewell to Celestine Annette Caraway who died on Friday, November 17, 1995.

Mrs. Caraway was a native Washingtonian who attended the D.C. Public Schools. She furthered her quest for knowledge at the Federal City College of the District of Columbia where she pursued a degree in Social Studies.

From 1973 until 1985 Mrs. Caraway worked diligently as a Social Worker for the Southwest Community House.

In recognition of her dedicated service to the community, she received Outstanding Service Awards from the NCHA Advisory Board, Shack Clinic Advisory Board, UDC Cooperative Extension Services, and the Southwest Kiwanas Club. In addition, she received the 4-H Silver Clover Award.

Mrs. Caraway was elected as Treasurer of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly and the Neighborhood Advisory

The SW Havaruh

The SW Havaruh had it's first real meeting in the chapel at Ft. McNair. The group will meet for Jewish Services at 8:30 pm every Friday evening. All are invited.

Parking arrangements at Southeastern University...

Arrangements have been made for students at Southeastern University to park at Waterside Mall on the weekends. Plans are underway to secure parking for the students on weekday evenings. Southeastern University is aware of the "parking problem" that their students create for the neighbors. It is their hope that their efforts will alleviate this problem.

Commissioner of Ward 2, District 7.

After serving the Southwest Community for numerous years, Mrs. Caraway accepted the position of Social Service Representative with the Department of Human Services.

Obituary:**Harry Martin**

Harry Tyler Martin passed away on January 3, 1996. A Memorial Service was held on Saturday, January 13. Harry was from Oxford, Ohio. He had lived many years here in Washington, D.C.

His professional life was very full. He retired in 1988 from his position as Chief, Division of Automated Information Systems, U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. He lived in River Park and was active on the board of this co-op. In his "free time", Harry was a member of the DC Democratic Committee, and Chairman of the Ward II Democratic Committee, receiving broad acclaim for his reconstitution and revitalization of the Ward II Democrats. He served tirelessly in the mayoral campaign of Sharon Pratt Kelly, the Clinton Campaign, and later in the campaign to elect Councilmember Jack Evans.

He leaves a wife, Emily Hawkins and 4 grown children and 3 grandchildren. We shall miss Harry Martin. He was an exemplary citizen of our community.

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WEEKDAYS: 7:30 pm, 8:00, 8:20, and 12:10 pm
SATURDAY: 8:20 am and 12:10 pm.

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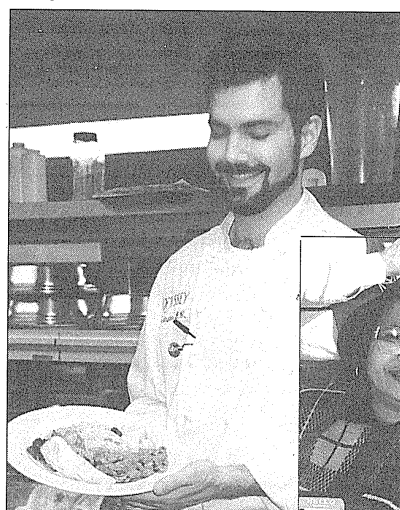
Sunday at 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 7:30 a.m., noon, & 6:30 p.m.

Assisted by (SOME) and Southwest Community House**Odyssey provides a Thanksgiving dinner...**

In keeping with the tradition of its sister ships, Odyssey I and II in Chicago and Boston, Washington's own Odyssey III provided a full-course Thanksgiving dinner, replete with turkey and all the trimmings, and a gala cruise for more than 350 guests on Wednesday, November 22, the day before the holiday.

As Odyssey slide smoothly down the Potomac, all on board enjoyed the bright sunshine as they feasted to their hearts' content. Then, after dinner, those who were still able to stand, made it to the dance floor to perform an enthusiastic electric slide.

Odyssey General Manager Steve Glass thanked his staff members, all of whom volunteered their time, and the many community volunteers who set the tables, served the meal, and helped with cleanup. Workers from So Others May Eat (SOME) and Southwest Community House organized the transportation of both guests and volunteers.



SW volunteers Zondra Earl, Peggy Jackson and Emma Ward (right). Chef Chris Britton (above).



The Christmas luncheon of the SW Waterfront AARP Chapter 4751...

by Alberta E. White, Public Relations Committee Chairman

The SW Waterfront AARP Chapter 4751 held its Christmas Luncheon at Pier 7 Restaurant on December 20, 1995.

Entertainment was provided by twelve year old Singer, Clemetrius Jordan, who recently won a contest at the Apollo Theater. It was enjoyed by all.

Special guests were C.W. Hargrave, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, 2D02, and Dr. Beryl Rice, President of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, SWNA.

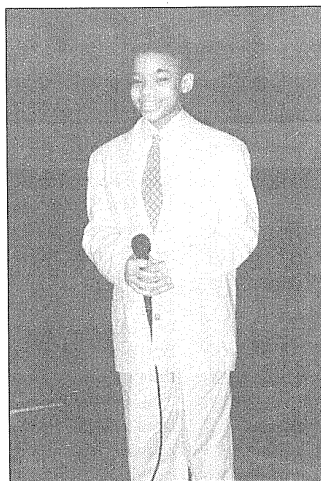
Our master of ceremonies was Neil Halliday. Many Ann Bailer, president, welcomed and thanked everyone for coming out on a cold inclement day. Alberta White, coordinator, thanked committee members for making the luncheon a success.

Members brought gifts to be donated to Efforts From Ex-Convicts (EFEC) and given to underprivileged children of prisoners.

Door prizes were also given to those attending.

The chapter meets on the third Wednesday of each month, 12 P.M. until 2 P.M. at

Twelve year old Singer, Clemetrius Jordan

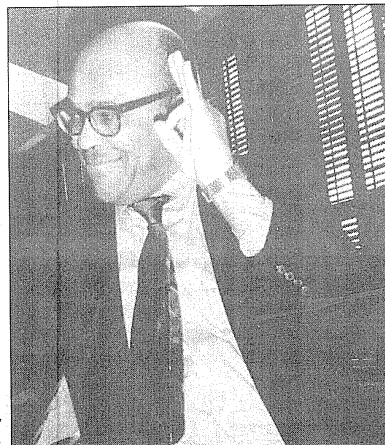


Neil Halliday, MC, and Alberta White, Coordinator



St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 3rd and M Streets, SW, September through June. All are welcome.

C.W. Hargrave, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, 2D02



A public service announcement Boating skills and sailing classes...

Boat owners and people who are thinking of owning a boat, listen to this.

Flotilla 21 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will offer a 13-lesson class on Boating Skills and Seamanship and Sailing and Seamanship beginning January 17.

Classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday, from 7:30 P.M. until 9:30 P.M., at the Harbor Police Station, 550 Water Street, SW.

The charge is \$18 for the series of classes.

Please call Dave Wells at (703) 768-8134 for more information and to see if there is room.

Delta Kappa Gamma Society

Nu State, District of Columbia, an organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, celebrated its 60th birthday with a luncheon at the Fort Lesley J. McNair Officers' Club on Saturday, December 2, 1995. The Society is the largest professional honorary organization in the world whose primary purpose is the advancement of education and women educators. Nu State is comprised of outstanding women educators, active and retired, from D. C., Maryland and Virginia.

Ms. Emma Jane Mitchell, a resident of Southwest and current Nu State President, presided over this well orchestrated luncheon. As an opening

celebration, former Past Nu Presidents were escorted to their seats by their current chapter presidents.

The guest speaker for this occasion was the Honorable Charlene Drew Jarvis, Council Member for the District of Columbia. Dr. Jarvis gave the members and their guests an inspirational experience.

As an added attraction, the D.C. Boys Choir under the direction of Mrs. Eleanor Stewart performed several musical selections. A special piano selection was performed by Alvin Hough, Jr. These young men, who attend elementary or middle schools in the District, gave an outstanding performance. Their group has been invited to perform in

the spring in Austria. Members & guests were so impressed by their performance and presence that more than \$800.00 was donated to assist them with their expenses.

Helping the D.C. Boys Choir is consistent with Nu State's involvement in varied educational activities, projects and issues relating to the D.C. schools.

Members of Nu State who live in the community are Mrs. Edna Davisson, Mrs. Beatrice B. Gilkes, Ms. Adelena Maddox, Mrs. Barbara Murray, Mrs. Louise Read, Miss Louise Sutherland, and Mrs. Emma Jane Mitchell.



Mrs. Louise Read, President of Delta Chapter and a Southwest resident presents gifts to Councilmember, Charlene Drew Jarvis. Emma Jane Mitchell is in the foreground.